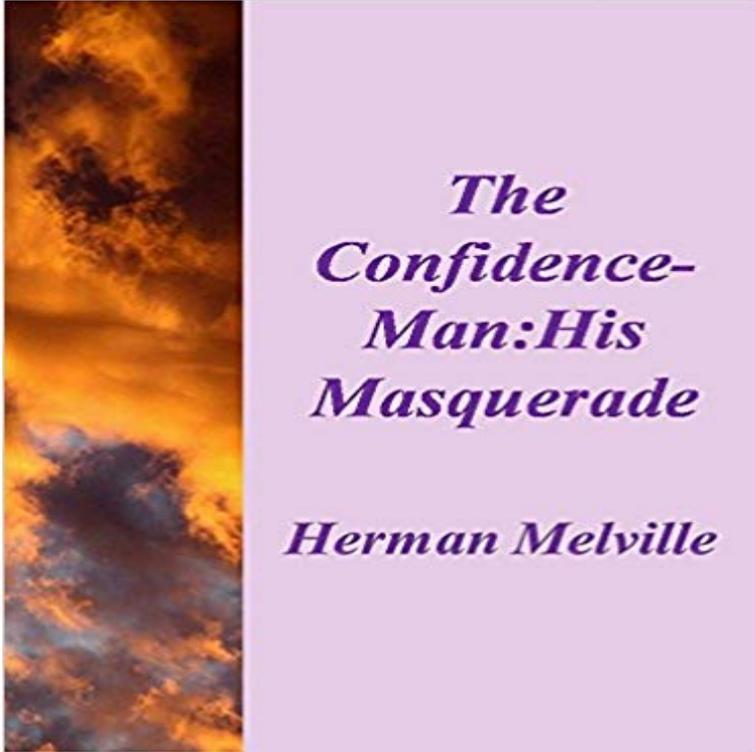


The Confidence-Man: His Masquerade



The *Confidence-Man: His Masquerade* is the ninth book and final novel by American writer Herman Melville, first published in New York in 1857. The novel's title refers to its central character, an ambiguous figure who sneaks aboard a Mississippi steamboat on April Fools Day. This stranger attempts to test the confidence of the passengers, whose varied reactions constitute the bulk of the text. Each person including the reader is forced to confront that in which he places his trust. The *Confidence-Man* uses the Mississippi River as a metaphor for those broader aspects of American and human identity that unify the otherwise disparate characters. Melville also employs the river's fluidity as a reflection and backdrop of the shifting identities of his confidence man. The novel is written as cultural satire, allegory, and metaphysical treatise, dealing with themes of sincerity, identity, morality, religiosity, economic materialism, irony, and cynicism. Many critics have placed *The Confidence-Man* alongside Melville's *Moby-Dick* and *Bartleby, the Scrivener* as a precursor to 20th-century literary preoccupations with nihilism, existentialism, and absurdism.

Very poorly received by an uninterested and uncomprehending public, *The Confidence-Man* was Melville's last novel. He would thereafter turn to writing poetry, *The Confidence-Man: His Masquerade*, by Herman Melville 1857 New York, Dix Edwards. The relevant book about Trump's American forebear is Herman Melville's *The Confidence-Man: His Masquerade*, the last novel he published in his lifetime, which met with scathing and uncomprehending reviews. *The Confidence-Man* has 2238 ratings and 212 reviews. The central motif of Melville's last and most modern novel can be seen as a symbol of American identity. Onboard the *Fidele*, a steamboat floating down the Mississippi to New Orleans, a confidence man sets out to defraud his fellow passengers. In quick succession: *The Confidence-Man: His Masquerade* (9780810103245): Herman Melville, Hershel Parker, G. Thomas Tanselle, Harrison Hayford: Books. Many critics have placed *The Confidence-Man* alongside Melville's *Moby-Dick* and *Bartleby, the Scrivener* as a precursor to 20th-century literature. *The Confidence-Man: His Masquerade*, first published in New York on April Fools Day 1857, is the ninth book and final novel by American writer Herman Melville. Onboard the *Fidele*, a steamboat floating down the Mississippi to New Orleans, a confidence man sets out to defraud his fellow passengers. In quick succession: Editorial Reviews. Review. More e-Books from MobileReference - Best Books. Best Price. *The Confidence-Man: His Masquerade* by [Melville, Herman]. - 656 min - Uploaded by Classic Literature Audiobooks. *The Confidence Man: His Masquerade* by Herman Melville {Audio book} The Project Gutenberg EBook of *The Confidence-Man*, by Herman Melville This eBook is for

the use of anyone anywhere at no cost and with almost noThe Confidence-Man and millions of other books are available for Amazon Kindle. . By Herman Melville The Confidence-Man: His Masquerade (Norton CriticalLong considered Melvilles strangest novel, The Confidence-Man is a comic allegory aimed at the optimism and materialism of mid-nineteenth century America.